



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact Sheet

Nancy E. Gist, Director

Model State Drug Statutes

“We are a Nation of laws.” This familiar statement was the driving force behind the 1993 development of comprehensive model drug legislation by the President’s Commission on Model State Drug Laws. The bipartisan commission created by Congress was composed of diverse State and local leaders, including an urban mayor, a superior court judge, a child advocate, a housing specialist, attorneys general, police chiefs, State legislators, treatment providers, and private practice lawyers. The commission created 42 model drug laws.

When the commission completed its assignment in 1993, its members established the National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws (the Alliance). Through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Alliance promotes the commission’s model drug legislation and educates State leaders about it.

The Model State Drug Laws

The 42 model drug laws reflect the best thinking of State substance abuse policymakers and practitioners. The laws cover a host of substance abuse topics, including money laundering; wiretapping; nuisance abatement; driving under the influence; prescription drug diversion; and a multitude of treatment, educational, and community issues. The topics can be grouped generally into five subject areas—economic remedies; community mobilization; crimes code; treatment; and drug-free families, schools, and workplaces.

The model statutes strengthen law enforcement’s traditional methods of tackling the Nation’s drug problem. The model laws are designed to:

- Reduce crime.
- Reduce prison overcrowding.

- Close crack houses and turn boarded buildings into useful real estate.
- Prevent the fraudulent distribution and black-market sale of prescription drugs.
- Recapture illegally used or acquired property and convert it to public use.
- Stop the laundering of billions of dollars in illegal drug profits.
- Decrease alcohol and drug-related highway fatalities.

In addition, complementary treatment, education, and community mobilization statutes help prevent drug and other violent crime.

Each proposed model statute includes an analysis that discusses its purpose and suggested use. Highlights and summaries of key points are provided to facilitate understanding of the statutory language. Designed as working drafts upon which State policymakers can build, the models serve as a menu of options. Policymakers can select models that best address a particular State’s drug problems and then implement them as State law.

The Model State Drug Laws Program

The Model State Drug Laws Program, created by the Alliance in 1993, is funded by BJA. Through this program, the Alliance provides technical assistance and agency-specific educational written materials and disseminates a five-volume compilation of the model State drug laws to State legislators, Governors, Attorneys General, and other State officials.

Technical Assistance. At this time, the Alliance provides telephone technical assistance to State officials at no cost. This technical assistance supports States in the effective use of legislative measures to help save the millions of

dollars lost to increasing criminal justice costs, skyrocketing health-care costs, and decreasing workplace productivity resulting from drug abuse. The Alliance also serves as a resource center for State policymakers interested in working with all, or sections of, the model laws. Through its national network of substance abuse experts, the Alliance offers guidance on policy, legal, technical, and substantive issues related to the model laws. It provides a forum for the exchange of ideas from other States and offers a variety of other types of free assistance to State leaders.

Currently, Pennsylvania, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Utah, and California, among other States, are using both the model laws and the Alliance's assistance to develop more comprehensive, effective legislative drug strategies.

Publications. A five-volume compilation of the model State drug statutes is available through the Alliance at no charge to State legislators, Governors, Attorneys General, and other State policymakers. Copies can be obtained of each model statute, each volume, or the entire five-volume set.

In addition, policy papers and other educational documents can be written for specific agencies interested in the model laws.

Model State Drug Laws Five-Volume Series

The content of each volume is as follows:

Volume I: Economic Remedies

Commission Forfeiture Reform Act (CFRA)
Model Demand Reduction Assessment Act
Model Money Laundering Act
Model Financial Transaction Reporting Act
Model Money Transmitter Act
Model Ongoing Criminal Conduct Act

Volume II: Community Mobilization

Model Expedited Eviction of Drug Traffickers Act
Model Drug Nuisance Abatement Act
Model Crimes Code Provisions To Protect Tenants and Neighbors
Model Anti-Drug Volunteer Protection Act
Model Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Policy and Planning Coordination Act
Model Community Mobilization Funding Act

Volume III: Crimes Code

Model Prescription Accountability Act
Model State Chemical Control Act
Uniform Controlled Substances Act (UCSA)
(1990)—Controlled Substance Analog Provisions
Model Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act
Model Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Other Drugs Act

Volume IV: Treatment

Model Addiction Costs Reduction Act (ACRA)
Model Medicaid Addictions Costs Reduction Act (MACRA)
Model Family Preservation Act
Model Managed Care Consumer Protection Act
Model Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services Act
Model Health Professionals Training Act
Model Criminal Justice Treatment Act
Caregivers' Assistance Policy Statement

Volume V: Drug-Free Families, Schools, and Workplaces

Model Underage Alcohol Consumption Reduction Act
Model Preventive Counseling Services for Children of Alcoholics and Addicts Act
Model State Sensible Advertising and Family Education Act
Model Revocation of Professional or Business License Act
Model Tobacco Vending Machine Restriction Act
Model K–12 Substance Abuse Instruction Act
Model Intervention for Students With Substance Abuse Problems Act
Model State Safe Schools Act
Model Drug-Free School Zone Act
Model State Ban on Tobacco Use in Schools Act
Model Alcohol and Drug-Free Colleges and Universities Act
Truancy, Expulsion, and Children Out of School Policy Statement
Model Drug-Free Private Sector Workplace Act
Model Drug-Free Workplace Workers' Compensation Premium Reduction Act
Model Employee Assistance Professionals Act
Model Drug-Free Public Work Force Act
Model Drug-Free Workplace Act
Model Employee Addiction Recovery Act

For Further Information

To learn more about the 42 model laws or the Alliance's State activities, or to obtain copies of the model laws, contact:

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